

TOWN OF GOSHEN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES – Regular Meeting
August 23, 2016

PRESENT: Dexter S. Kinsella, Robert P. Valentine, Steven M. Romano

OTHERS: Allan Walker, Garrett Harlow, David Battista, Lenard Engineering; Fred Barker, Cemetery Sexton;

Robert P. Valentine called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

IN A MOTION made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Robert P. Valentine, it was VOTED to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 16, 2016 as submitted. Motion carried with Steven M. Romano abstaining.

IN A MOTION made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Steven M. Romano, it was VOTED to add item 10a. Executive Session for the discussion of Personnel Matter. Voted unanimous.

IN A MOTION made by Steven M. Romano, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was VOTED to add item 9b – Tax Collector's Report, July 31, 2016. Voted unanimous.

MATTERS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES: None

NEW BUSINESS: The Board moved to item **9a. Cemeteries – Fred Barker, Sexton – Old Middle Street Cemetery**

Fred Barker, Sexton at the Old Middle Cemetery, distributed drawings showing the three cremation garden plots planned with meditation spaces. These cremation plots will be available only to Goshen residents and their direct descendants. No containers can be included, only ashes to be spread; no potted plants, loose flowers will be removed after two weeks. A brass plaque can be placed marking the name of the deceased in the meditation area. Mr. Barker plans on requesting maintenance of the flower gardens from the Goshen Garden Club and the Boy Scouts that may be in pursuit of Eagle Scout level. The Board advised Mr. Barker to continue to move forward with his planning and return with more details.

Continuing on the subject of cemeteries, the Board engaged in a brief discussion on the installation of headstones in all of the town cemeteries. It was decided that a policy needs to be put in place including specifications on installation of the bases for headstones. Improper installing of the cement base has resulted problems with the headstones.

OLD BUSINESS: **item 8a – Milton Road-Road Project & Rural Collector Grant**

David Battista from Lenard Engineering, laid out an aerial map showing the entire stretch of Milton Road – from Marshepaug to Thompson Rd. Both Mr. Battista and Garret Harlow, Public Works Supervisor, reported on their combined efforts that resulted in three options available for maximum use of the federal dollars from the Rural Collectors Grant (\$550,000) and the use of Goshen TAR funds and major road project funds. Both Garret Harlow and Mr. Battista will confer with Connecticut DOT for guidance on particular sections of Milton Road as the project moves forward.

APPROVAL OF PAYROLL AND WARRANT: 8/25/16

IN A MOTION made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Steven M. Romano, it was VOTED to approve the warrant and payroll of August 25, 2016 in the amount of \$37,485.75. It was noted included in the warrant was the payroll in the amount of \$21,602.92 and the warrant in the amount of \$15,882.83. Voted unanimous.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

August 23, 2016

Page 2

FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT:

Weed harvesting has begun on Dog Pond; Garret Harlow's diligent efforts to guide the contractors' process has resulted in a successful removal. Tyler Lake is preparing a bid for Hydro-Raking for tangible results. The process for dealing with the Blue/Green Algae is being discussed with the DEEP and TAHD to determine the agency responsible for Lake closures and testing.

Bob Valentine reported on his being informed of an application being made to DEEP for Wind Turbines being proposed on land owned by the Torrington Water Company. A reporter from Connecticut Public Radio discussed this application with Bob advising him of BNE Energy Inc. (of Colebrook) and their application for these Wind Turbines. Bob wants to ensure the proposed turbines and their infrastructure do not impact Goshen's residents ability to use hiking trails that were established stemming from the process with the Torrington Water Company when discontinuing old town roads.

Sandra Wellwood had comments and questions regarding the appropriateness of continuing to use residual grant funds for the operating quarterly expenses under Goshen's *Nutmeg Network Grant*. Bob Valentine received clarification from a representative of OPM that in fact, Goshen can use the funds for operational expenses.

Another auditor question arose on the utilization of the Recreation Department's Activity Fund and Operating Funds. Further discussion on this will be scheduled. In the interim, we will bring the accounting of the Activity Fund account into the fiscal office.

A contractor was brought in to examine the utilization of a new conference room table that has movable sections to enable the tables to accommodate various types of meetings, i.e., the table would be in sections that are able to be separated to allow people to work in separate groups, or in a circular fashion for addressing an audience, or reduce the table space for a small meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

9.b - The Tax Collector's Report for July 31, 2016 was reviewed by the Selectmen. A new set up in the Excel Spread Sheet has simplified the reading of the collections to date.

IN A MOTION made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Steven M. Romano, it was VOTED to receive the Tax Collector's Report for July 31, 2016 as submitted. Voted unanimous.

10.c – ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

IN A MOTION made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Steven M. Romano, it was VOTED to move into Executive Session at 6:58 p.m. for the discussion of a personnel matter. Voted unanimous

The Board returned to open session at 7:13 p.m. No action was taken.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

IN A MOTION made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Steven M. Romano, it was VOTED to adjourn the meeting at 7:14 p.m. Voted unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucille A. Paige, First Selectman's Aide